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**Corps meets builders Thursday about \$250 million contract**

*Conference will seek views of construction companies prior to formal solicitation*

NEW ORLEANS – Construction contractors are invited to a conference Thursday to help shape a solicitation by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a hurricane-protection contract potentially worth \$250 million over three years.

The pre-solicitation conference will begin at 8 a.m., June 22, in the District Assembly Room, New Orleans Engineer District, 7400 Leake Ave., New Orleans 70118.

“The conference is aimed in particular at construction companies with significant capabilities in pile-driving and reinforced concrete wall placements,” said Jim Barr, chief of the Contracting Division of the New Orleans District.

“We want to get industry feedback prior to issuance of the formal solicitation. We plan to issue the solicitation next week,” he said.

“We will present the basics of the contract. And then will ask for ways that we can improve the engineering or acquisition processes,” Barr said.

The procurement is known as an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity or IDIQ contract. A single award will be made for a base year, and the Corps will have the option to extend the contractor for two additional years. The contract is not to exceed \$250 million.

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